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	Application No.	Applicant(s)	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
	10/702,612	SUHARA ET AL.	
Notice of Allowability	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Daniel A. Hess	2876	
The MAILING DATE of this communication app All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85 NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT R of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.31:	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED in or other appropriate communication is s	this application. If not include inication will be mailed in due of	d course. <b>THIS</b>
1. This communication is responsive to <u>2/28/07 response by</u>	Applicant.		·
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 15-18 and 27-38.			
<ul> <li>3.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority u</li> <li>a)  All b)  Some* c)  None of the:</li> <li>1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have</li> <li>2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have</li> <li>3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority do</li> </ul>	e been received. e been received in Applicatio	n No	ion from the
International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).	Samona have been received	in this national stage applicati	·
* Certified copies not received:			
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONN THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.	of this communication to file MENT of this application.	a reply complying with the req	uirements
4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submiNFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give			OTICE OF
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") mu	st be submitted.	•	
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsper		( PTO-948) attached	
1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date	_	,	
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner Paper No./Mail Date		in the Office action of	
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in	1.84(c)) should be written on the	ne drawings in the front (not the R 1.121(d).	back) of
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT			ote the
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Attachment(s)  1. ☑ Native of References Cited (RTO 802)	F □ Notice of Int	formal Datant Application	
1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)		formal Patent Application	
2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)		ummary (PTO-413), Mail Date	
Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),     Paper No./Mail-Date	7. Examiner's	Amendment/Comment	
Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	8. 🛭 Examiner's	Statement of Reasons for Allov	wance
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## **DETAILED ACTION**

This action is responsive to Applicant's correspondence of 2/28/2007, which has been entered into the electronic file wrapper of the present case.

## Election/Restrictions

Claims 15-18 and 27-38 are allowable. The restriction requirement between claims 38 and the other claims, as set forth in the Office action mailed on 1/30/07, has been reconsidered in view of the allowability of claims to the elected invention pursuant to MPEP § 821.04(a). The restriction requirement is hereby withdrawn as to any claim that requires all the limitations of an allowable claim. Claim 38 is no longer withdrawn from consideration because the claim(s) requires all the limitations of an allowable claim.

In view of the above noted withdrawal of the restriction requirement, applicant is advised that if any claim presented in a continuation or divisional application is anticipated by, or includes all the limitations of, a claim that is allowable in the present application, such claim may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application.

Once a restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. See *In re Ziegler*, 443 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

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It is noted that the present allowance extends only to claim 15 and its dependents; therefore, only the 1/30/07 restriction requirement is withdrawn. In any event, other non-elected claims from earlier restriction requirements have already been cancelled.

## Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 15-18 and 27-38 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The Examiner firstly notes that he earlier commented on page 2 of the action mailed 1/30/2007 that an obviousness-type rejection might be made using Bergstrom (US 6,631,868) and Miller et al. (US 6,631,870).

The Examiner presently changes his position on this matter. The Examiner has carefully considered the Applicant's remarks and concedes that the claim limitations of claim 15 cannot simply be met by an arrangement where component tapes having coded indicia are spliced directly together such that the component tape is also the 'connecting member.'

A careful reading of the language of claim 15, including 'component-tape connecting member for connecting a leading end portion of a component tape and a trailing end portion of another component tape, each of the component tapes including a carrier tape and a plurality of electronic circuit components' shows that in fact the *connecting member* cannot be simply one of the component tapes but is a separate and distinct connecting object.

In addition to the art already cited, there exists other art which teaches coding for component tapes, in which the coding is placed either on the tape itself or on a reel or holder of

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the tape. This art includes Eschenweck (US 6,901,311), Easton (US 6,779,726), Ohashi et al. (US 6,694,606), Hart (US 5,494,168), Papp (US 2004/0094564) and Kou (US 2004/0039480).

None of this art teaches or suggests information bearing records on a connecting member that connects the ends of two component tapes together.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

## Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel A. Hess whose telephone number is (571) 272-2392. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on (571) 272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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5/28/07

DANIEL HESS
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER